

Western Cape Government

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SUBJECT and GRADE	Mathematics Grade 12		
TERM 1	Week 5		
TOPIC	Euclidean Geometry - Similarity Theorem		
AIMS OF LESSON	Equiangular triangles are similar		
	If the corresponding sides of two triangles are in the same proportion, then the triangles are similar		
RESOURCES	Paper based resources	Digital resources	
	Mind the Gap; Your textbook	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZt4wXBo1PA	
INTRODUCTION			

Let's go back to the previous grades and review congruency for triangles.

<u>CONGRUENCY</u> (\equiv): Two triangles is congruent if they have the same shape and size. Thus the two triangles are identical, the corresponding angles are

the same and the corresponding sides are equal.

Two triangles are congruent if they have:

- 1. 3 sides the same length: (S; S; S)
- 2. 2 sides and an included angle: (S; A; S)
- 3. 2 angles and a side equal: (A; A; S)
- 4. A right angle, hypotenuse and a side equal: (R; H; S)

In $\triangle ABC$ and $\triangle ADC$:

- 1. $B\widehat{A}C = D\widehat{A}C$ given
- 2. $B\hat{C}A = D\hat{C}A$ given
- 3. AC is common
 - $\therefore \Delta ABC \equiv \Delta ADC (A; A; S)$

Since they are congruent, we can say now that: $\widehat{B} = \widehat{D}$; AB = AD and BC = DC



CONCEPTS AND SKILLS

SIMILARITY (|||): Polygons are **similar** if they have the **same shape**. If two polygons are similar, the one is an

enlargement of the other.

Two polygons are similar if and only if:

All pairs of corresponding angles are equal **AND**

all pairs of corresponding sides are in the same proportion.

Both of these conditions have to be met for two polygons to be similar.

For Triangles, any one of these two conditions is sufficient to guarantee similarity.

Hence in any two triangles if:

All pairs of corresponding angles are equal, then the two triangles are similar,

OR

If all pairs of corresponding sides are in the same proportion, then the two triangles are similar.

If one of the conditions is true for two triangles, then the other condition is automatically also true.

NOTATION

 $\Delta XYZ \parallel \Delta MNP$ means 'triangle XYZ is similar to triangle MNP'. The order in which the letters are written is very important, as it indicates which angles are equal.

Hence $\hat{X} = \hat{M}$, $\hat{Y} = \hat{N}$ and $\hat{Z} = \hat{P}$. The order also indicates which **ratios of sides are equal**: $\Delta XYZ \parallel \Delta MNP$ $\frac{XY}{MN} = \frac{YZ}{NP} = \frac{XZ}{MP}$ or $\frac{XY}{YZ} = \frac{MN}{NP}$ or $\frac{XY}{XZ} = \frac{MN}{MP}$ or $\frac{YZ}{XZ} = \frac{NP}{MP}$



THEOREM 2: TRIANGLE SIMILARITY THEOREM

If two triangles are equiangular, then their corresponding sides are in the same proportion and hence the triangles are similar.



Example 1:













Proof of Theorem 2. If two triangles are equiangular, then their corresponding sides are in the same proportion and hence the triangles are similar. Given: $\triangle ABC$ and $\triangle DEF$ with $\widehat{A} = \widehat{D}$, $\widehat{B} = \widehat{E}$ and $\widehat{C} = \widehat{F}$ **Required to prove** : $\frac{AB}{DE} = \frac{AC}{DF} = \frac{BC}{EF}$ and hence $\triangle ABC \parallel \parallel \triangle DEF$ **Proof: Construction:** Mark off P on AB and Q on AC, such that AP = DE and AQ = DF. Draw PQ. In $\triangle APQ$ and $\triangle DEF$: 1. $\widehat{A} = \widehat{D}$ (given) А 2. AP = DE(construction) 3. AQ = DF(construction) D $\therefore \Delta APQ \equiv \Delta DEF (S; \angle; S)$ $\therefore \mathbf{A}\widehat{\mathbf{P}}\mathbf{Q} = \widehat{\mathbf{E}} \qquad (\equiv \Delta \mathbf{s})$ And $\widehat{E} = \widehat{B}$ (given) $\therefore A\widehat{P}Q = \widehat{B}$ ∴ PQ ∥ BC (corresp $\angle s =$) F $\therefore \frac{AB}{AP} = \frac{AC}{AQ}$ (line || side of Δ) в С But AP = DE and AQ = DF $\therefore \frac{AB}{DE} = \frac{AC}{DF}$ Similarly, by marking of P on BA and Q on BC, such that BP = ED and BQ = EF, it can be shown that $\therefore \frac{AB}{DE} = \frac{BC}{EF}$ $\therefore \frac{AB}{DE} = \frac{AC}{DF} = \frac{BC}{EF}$



